

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 247207

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, UK, SE

SUBJECT: NPT ADHERENCE: SEYCHELLES

REFS: (A) LONDON 13021; (B) VICTORIA 259

1. UK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS INFORMALLY TOLD US THAT THE UK APPROACHED THE GOS TO CONFIRM SEYCHELLES STATUS AS INDICATED REFTEL A. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY SOURCE, THE GOS INFORMED THE UK THAT IT WAS LOOKING OVER A NUMBER OF TREATIES THAT IT SUCCEEDED TO AT THE TIME OF INDEPENDENCE BUT THAT IT CONSIDERED ITSELF TO BE AN NPT PARTY. THE GOS THEN REQUESTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE UK NOT PUBLICIZE ITS NPT STANDING. THE UK SUPPOSEDLY AGREED TO THIS.

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2. PLEASE CONFIRM ABOVE WITH HMG. YOU SHOULD ALSO INFORM THE UK THAT FOR NPT ADHERENCE IT IS US POLICY TO REQUIRE THAT A FORMAL NOTIFICATION OF SUCCESSION BE DEPOSITED IN LONDON, MOSCOW, OR WASHINGTON WHEN COLONIES BECOME INDEPENDENT BEFORE WE WILL CONSIDER THAT THE NPT IS IN FORCE BETWEEN THE US AND THE NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATE. WE DO NOT CONSIDER THE USUAL NOTIFICATION TO THE UN OR TO THE FORMER

COLONIAL POWER BY A FORMER COLONY THAT IT IS BOUND BY
TREATIES ADHERED TO BY THE FORMER COLONIAL POWER, TO BE
SUFFICIENT NOTIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO TREATIES SUCH AS

NPT. IN ORDER TO RESOLVE THIS SITUATION, THE US WILL
REQUEST THAT THE SEYCHELLES PROVIDE US WITH AN APPROPRIATE
NOTIFICATION OF SUCCESSION.

3. YOU SHOULD ALSO USE THIS OCCASION TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE
STATUS OF SOLOMON ISLANDS AND BRUNEI RE NPT SUCCESSION.

4. FOR VICTORIA: UNLESS YOU HAVE OBJECTIONS, YOU ARE
REQUESTED TO APPROACH APPROPRIATE GOS OFFICIALS AND INDI-
CATE US POLICY ON ACCEPTING NOTIFICATIONS OF SUCCESSION
STATED PARA 2. YOU SHOULD FURTHER INDICATE THAT BECAUSE
THE SEYCHELLES CONSIDERS ITSELF TO BE AN NPT PARTY, WE
WOULD BE HONORED TO ACCEPT A SUITABLE NOTIFICATION OF
SUCCESSION.

5. IF REQUIRED, SUGGESTED TEXT OF NOTE TO SECRETARY OF
STATE FROM MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE THE GOVERNMENT OF SEYCHELLES HAS THE HONOR TO CON-
FIRM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ONE OF
THE THREE DEPOSITARY GOVERNMENTS UNDER THE TREATY ON THE
NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS DONE AT WASHINGTON,
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LONDON, AND MOSCOW ON JULY 1, 1968, THAT IT CONSIDERS
ITSELF TO BE BOUND THEREBY BY VIRTUE OF THE SIGNATURE OF
THE UNITED KINGDOM AND PURSUANT TO CUSTOMARY INTERNATIONAL
LAW. I WOULD, THEREFORE, REQUEST YOU TO CONSIDER LISTING
SEYCHELLES AS A PARTY TO THIS INSTRUMENT. UNQUOTE.

6. EMBASSY MAY OFFER TO FORWARD NOTIFICATION OF SUCCESSION
TO WASHINGTON FOR DEPOSIT. IF GOS PROVIDES YOU WITH
NOTIFICATION, PLEASE POUCH IT TO DEPARTMENT ATTN ASSISTANT
LEGAL ADVISOR, TREATY AFFAIRS. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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